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PP RUEHWEB

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FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8103
INFO RUEHAD/AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI PRIORITY 0006
RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY 0279
RUEHKB/AMEMBASSY BAKU PRIORITY 0041
RUEHLB/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY 0133
RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY 0229
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 1086
RUEHDL/AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY 0227
RUEHHE/AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY 8116
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 0231
RUEHKV/AMEMBASSY KYIV PRIORITY 0014
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 4067
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 0454
RUEHVJ/AMEMBASSY SARAJEVO PRIORITY 0013
RUEHSQ/AMEMBASSY SKOPJE PRIORITY 0165
RUEHSM/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY 3456
RUEHSI/AMEMBASSY TBILISI PRIORITY 0126
RUEHTI/AMEMBASSY TIRANA PRIORITY 0215
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 1653
RUEHUM/AMEMBASSY ULAANBAATAR PRIORITY 0033
RUEHVI/AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY 0326
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY 0407
RUEHVB/AMEMBASSY ZAGREB PRIORITY 0257
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0370
RHMFISS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 000023

SIPDIS

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TAGS: [AF](#) [MARR](#) [MOPS](#) [NATO](#) [PREL](#) [NO](#)
SUBJECT: NORWAY'S RESPONSE ON AFGHAN LEAD PROVINCIAL
RESPONSIBILITY

REF: SECSTATE 4108

Classified By: AMBASSADOR BARRY B. WHITE FOR REASONS 1.4(b) and (d)

¶1. (C) Ambassador delivered reftel points during his January 14 Courtesy Call to Defense Minister Grete Faremo (full conversation to be reported septel). Faremo responded by saying that Norway is committed to the NATO/ISAF mission in Afghanistan, and added that Norway needs to understand U.S. strategy in the region and foresee any possibly strategic shifts. She said she fully supported the goal of partnering with Afghan forces to allow for the transition of security when feasible, noting that the transfer of security is the "natural next step." She emphasized that indeed the public should not interpret the transition process as signaling NATO's exit, and that the NATO effort in Afghanistan remains respected by the Norwegian public.

¶2. MFA Deputy Director for Afghanistan/Pakistan Kristin Enstad told PolOff January 15 that the focus on capacity building and transfer of lead security responsibility is at the core of Norwegian policy, fully in line with the ISAF transition to Afghan lead at the provincial level. She added that she does not expect the Norwegian public to interpret the planning process for transition as an exit strategy, given it dovetails nicely with what the GON has been saying for the past year, i.e. that the Afghans must be trained to provide security. Norway itself remains fully committed to staying in Afghanistan to complete NATO's mission, she concluded.
WHITE